

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 FEA-01 OES-06 /036 W

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P 262000Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4819

INFO AMEMBASY QUITO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EC

SUBJ: SHORTAGE OF AVIATION FUEL IN ECUADOR

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH COMMERCIAL OFFICER , A TOP OFFICIAL OF ESSO ANDINA SAID TODAY THAT IT IS HIGHLY PROB-
ABLE THERE WILL BE NO JET FUEL AVAILABLE AUG 30 AND 31 AT
GUAYAQUIL'S "SIMON BOLIVAR" INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

2. ON AUGUST 21 A SCARCITY OF JET FUEL WAS FIRST FELT AT
THE GUAYAQUIL AIRPORT. THAT DAY SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING JET FUEL.
FOR EXAMPLE, ONE AIRCRAFT BELONGING TO "IBERIA" AIRLINES
REPORTEDLY WAS ALLOWED TO TAKE ONLY ENOUGH FUEL TO PRO-
CEED TO ITS NEXT IMMEDIATE STOP.

3. ACCORDING TO ESSO ANDINA SOURCE, THE REFUSAL TO FUEL
FOREIGN AIRSHIPS IS MOTIVATED BY THE PREVAILING SHORTAGE
OF AVIATION FUEL AND BECAUSE EXISTING INVENTORIES ARE RE-
SERVED FOR THE NATIONAL AIRLINES. THE SHORTAGE IS
SAID TO BE CAUSED BY ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL
PROBLEMS IN THE DELIVERY OF CRUDE TO THE CEPE CON-
TROLLED "ANGLO" REFINERY.

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4. A CEPE TANKER BRINGING CRUDE TO THE "ANGLO" REFINERY HAS DEVELOPED ENGINE PROBLEMS AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE ITS SCHEDULED DELIVERY. AS A RESULT, "ANGLO" IS ONLY ABLE TO DELIVER 270,000 GALLONS OF JET FUEL TO ESSO ANDINA THIS SATURDAY OR SUNDAY. THE FUEL MUST SETTLE AND STABILIZE FOR TWO DAYS PRIOR TO LAB TESTS AND DELIVERY TO AIRPORT CONSUMERS. HENCE, THIS FUEL WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1.

5. CURRENT STOCKS OF JET FUEL ON HAND AT THE AIRPORT AND IN ESSO ANDINA'S STORAGE TANK ARE SUFFICIENT FOR ONLY TWO OR POSSIBLY THREE DAYS OPERATION. ESSO ANDINA OFFICIAL ESTIMATES CURRENT SUPPLY WILL BE EXHAUSTED BY SUNDAY. HE SAYS THERE WILL BE NO FUEL AVAILABLE MONDAY OR TUESDAY, AUG. 30, 31.

6. METZLER REPORTS.
BISHTON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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